

**BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE** 

## SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH

2010

## BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## **A PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, sickle cell disease is an inherited blood disorder that causes pain, infection, disability, economic strain and even death, particularly among African Americans; and

WHEREAS, sickle cell disease was first diagnosed in the United States in 1910; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that more than 6,000 people have sickle cell disease in North Carolina, and more than 200,000 people in the State have the sickle cell trait, which means that they carry the gene for this condition; and

WHEREAS, approximately one in every 500 African Americans and one in every 1,000 Hispanics are born with sickle cell disease; and

WHEREAS, there is no cure for sickle cell disease, though treatment is available to help those with sickle cell disease lead more productive and rewarding lives; and

WHEREAS, since 1973, the North Carolina Sickle Cell Syndrome Program has provided quality services throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, provision of services is a collaborative effort between agencies, health care providers, regional and community partners and the State Laboratory of Public Health; and

WHEREAS, services include screening of all newborns at birth, genetic counseling, service coordination, medical reimbursement and social support for affected persons; and

WHEREAS, support for research on the treatment and management of this disorder is vital to improving the health and quality of life of persons with sickle cell disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, I BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 2010, as "SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH;" sickle cell is a global concern that affects people of all races, and in North Carolina I urge our citizens to recognize and support this observance.

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE

IN WITNESS WHERE, I have he to set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this third day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and ten and the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fifth.